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## Rep. Steffen Testifies in Favor of Assembly Bill 33

**Madison**—Today Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) spoke in support of a bill he authored, Assembly Bill 33, which relates to the expungement of records of certain crimes.

"I was thrilled testify with Senator Darling and Representative Goyke and present our bipartisan solution for the workforce shortage issue facing this state. AB 33 makes common-sense revisions to Wisconsin's outdated expungement law and is an important step in connecting employers in need with potential employees who are looking to overcome their past and find success in the workforce," said Rep. Steffen.

Expungement refers to a process where a person can petition to have his or her record expunged (or removed from public court records) of a non-violent, lower-level offense. An individual is only eligible for expungement if they meet certain criteria. Currently, a judge can only order that an individual is eligible for expungement at the time of sentencing and it is only available to individuals under the age of 25. This bill would allow a judge to order that a record be expunged after a person completes his or her sentence, and removes the arbitrary age limit of 25.

"Under Wisconsin's current expungement law, many able-bodied residents are forced to sit on the workforce sidelines. During a time when nearly every industry in Wisconsin is facing a workforce shortage, AB 33 plays a crucial role in connecting employers in need with this untapped workforce."

For more information please contact Representative Steffen. He can be reached at (608)266-5840 or by email at <a href="mailto:Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov">Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov</a>.

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